

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2005. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that Figs. 6, 7, 12 and 13 should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art". Accordingly, corrected replacement drawings for Figs. 6, 7, 12 and 13 are provided in order to label the identified figures "Prior Art". In view of the submission of the correct drawings, the objection to the drawings is now clearly obviated.

Next, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised in order to make a number of minor clarifying amendments. To facilitate the entry of the amendments, a substitute specification and abstract has been prepared. No new matter has been added. Also enclosed is a marked-up copy of the original specification and abstract to show the changes that have been incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract. The enclosed copy is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Further, original claims 1-11 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 12-22. The enclosed "marked-up" copy of the original claims corresponds to the new claims. Note, the awkward language in original claims 1-2 has been corrected in new claims 12-

13. Furthermore, as can be seen from the "marked-up" version, the changes are directed to minor formal matters and do not affect the scope of the original claims.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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